By Express Mail

PHILADELPHIA MAY 30

PAID

75

Sir/
Daniel Bradford, Esq
Supt. Br. Mint
New Orleans

72 Dr. R. M. Patterson
May 29th 1838, report of
re-assays; of Mexn. Bars.

Mint of the United States,
May 29th, 1838.

Sir,

I send you herewith Mr. J. R. Eckfeldt's report ~~of~~ on the assays of deposites made at your mint, of which specimens were sent by you, and received here on the 21st inst. I agree perfectly in the remarks which accompany the report; and will merely add that Dr. Hort, (notwithstanding some variations from our assays which we cannot understand,) shows that he is well acquainted with the duti of his department, and when using proper caution, may be safely relied on. I deem it, therefore, unnecessary to send to this mint any more assay-pieces from deposites, unless some peculiar circumstance may make you judge an appeal to us desirable. I wish the ingot assays, however, to be still tested here, according to my former instructions.

Very respectfully, Your faithful
Servant,
R. M. Patterson
Director

To
David Bradford Esq
Sup. Br. Mint, New Orleans.

Remarks. — The Assays of Gold, contained in the Silver, proved so ~~entirely~~ satisfactory, that it was not thought necessary to continue them beyond the 16th item. Too great a variation, however, appears in No. 26.

The Assays of Silver are, with a few exceptions, equally satisfactory; they are never expected to correspond so minutely as those of Gold. — The exceptions referred to, are Nos. 19, 20, 31, 35, 40, 49, 54 and 56; some of which were ~~a~~ assayed twice here, and must be considered as erroneously reported, or transcribed, at the Branch Mint. The Humid Assay is so exact a~~n~~ process ~~operation~~, that any diversity of results greater than two milliemes at the farthest, ought to be charged to some accidental occurrence, which a second Assay would correct.

It must be noticed that Nos. 55 and 57 ~~proved~~ varied considerably from the result at the Branch Mint, but there was not enough of the metal sent us, to repeat the operation.

By summing up the results of the 40 silver assays reported, at each Mint, and dividing the difference by the number of assays, it will be seen that the Assayer of the Branch Mint has reported, on an average, only one quarter of a millieme too high; and that therefore (assuming an ~~average~~ equality of weights) the Melter and Refiner, ~~and~~ the Treasurer, and the Depositors, have reason to be perfectly satisfied; while the Assayer may assume with confidence, that he has been working upon correct principles.

Mint of the United States,
Assayer's Office, May 28. 1838.

Jacob R Eckfeldt
Assayer

Report of the Assayer, to the Director of the Mint.

Assay of Silver containing Gold, at the Branch Mint at New Orleans; and the Re-assay of the same, at the Principal Mint, Philadelphia.

		New-Orleans.		Philada.	
		Silver.	Gold.	Silver.	Gold.
1	No. 16.	962	17	961	17
1.5	17.	951	13	949.5	13
1	18.	962	17	961	17
4	19.	953	9	957	9
6.5	20.	957	5	963.5	5
1	21.	940	17	941	18
	22.	970	12.5	970	12.5
1	23.	846	141	845	141
2	24.	959	29	957	29
.5	25.	738	244	737.5	244
2	26.	923	56	925	54
1.5	27.	968	12.5	966.5	12.5
—	28.	926	53	926	53.5
1.5	29.	969	18.5	967.5	19
1	30.	965	13	964	13
3	31.	972	12.5	975	12.5
2 1.5	32.	982	5.5	980.5	
1	33.	977	12.5	978	
1.5	34.	967	5	965.5	
3.5	35.	957.5	5.5	961	
2.5	36.	937	7.5	939.5	
	37.	959	9.5	959	
1.5	38.	975	4	973.5	
	No. 39	963	5	963	
3	40	927	28	930	
1	41	992	5	993	
1	42	952	4	953	
1.5	43	955	4.5	957.5	
1.5	44	971.5		970	
1	45	950	4.5	951	
1	46	974	9	976	
1	47	922	75.5	921	
1.5	48	965	10	963.5	
3	49	960	6	957	
2.5	50	920	78	920	
2.5	51	923	75	920.5	
1	52	999		998	
1.5	53	999		997.5	
8.	54	984	14	976	
	55	998		....	
6	56	990	8	984	
	57	984	14	....	
	58	—	887	—	888
	59	—	890	—	891

See over.